

Newsletter No 1

Dear Parents,

9th September 2016

Welcome back to the start of a new school year and a special welcome to all our new children in the Reception class and families who are new to our school.

'Crossroads' Diocesan Celebration Event – a fantastic time was had by all the Juniors (and staff!) this morning at this lively worship event held at Ewood Park. Well done to Heather Phelan and Tyler Roberts who went onto the pitch to release prayer balloons!


Please ensure that the following documents, issued this week, are completed by return ASAP:

- **Medical Conditions and Taking Medicines in School Forms - issued to all children on medication last year, Y1 – Y6**
- **Home School Agreements – Y3 only**
- **Privacy Notice – Reception class only**
- **E-Safety Rules (Parental consent) – all classes**
- **Pupil Information and Parental Consent Forms – all classes**
- **End of School Day Arrangements for Collecting Infant Children – Y1 & Y2 – sent earlier**

Class Information for Parents – Please see the attached documents specific to your child's class detailing topics of work covered this term along with details of homework and PE days etc. These are also on our website (class pages).

Essential Information for Parents – I would like to take this opportunity, at the start of the year, to clarify a number of school policies and procedures, many of which relate to health and safety issues which are becoming increasingly important. Please see the **'Essential Information for Parents' document that has been sent via email**. It is also available on the school website under 'Parents'.

Please note: Professional coaches will, once again, be delivering PE of the highest standard to all children in school. It is essential that PE kits are in school on the appropriate days. Children wearing earrings will **NOT** be permitted to participate. Please ensure studs from newly pierced ears are removed ASAP.



Family Fun Day 12 noon - 3 p.m. Saturday 24th September

Please support us, rain or shine in this important fund raising event. Come and try the Climbing Wall and the IBOX Truck.

Non-uniform day on Thursday 22nd September – details to follow next week.

Reminder: School will be closed on Monday 3rd October for staff training.

Music Lessons begin week commencing Monday 12th September.

Dinner Money for one week is £10.00 (£2 per meal). For accounting purposes, please ensure that dinner monies are paid for by a **separate cheque**. Apologies for any convenience this may cause. **Dinner money needs to be paid on Monday each week in advance.** Please inform the school office of any changes to dinner options (packed lunches/school dinners).

School lunches – Please note that week commencing 12th September will be Week 2 on the lunch menu.

Ukulele begins Monday 12th 3.30 – 4.15 p.m., **Orchestra** begins Wednesday 28th 3.30 – 4.30 p.m., **Choir** begins Thursday 22nd 3.30 – 4.30 p.m.

See over/

Year 6 Leavers – We always think, at this time, of our previous Year 6 children who have just started High School. This year 16 children have gone to St. Wilfrid's, 1 to St. Christopher's, 2 to Pleckgate, 4 to Tauheedul Girls' School, 2 to Tauheedul Boys' School, 1 to Ribblesdale, 2 to QEGS 1 to Darwen Aldridge Community Academy, 1 to St. Augustine's.

St. Gabriel's School Trophies – Each summer we present trophies to our Year 6 leavers for a range of achievements and attributes. For 2015-16 we congratulate the following children:

Harry Riding Cup (Service to School)	Amelia Tyson
E. Wynne Reading Shield	Georgina Spencer
Sportsman of the Year	Connor March
Sportsgirl of the Year	Danielle Probert
Team Player Sports Shield	Josh Asal
Edgar King Music Cup	Madison Ashton
J. Pearson English Shield	Leah Forrest-Yates
Dobson Family Trophy for Achievement in Maths	Zayd Thava
P. Salmon Cup of Achievement	Kian Rawcliffe
D. Martin Courtesy Shield	Dominic Wilding
Pemberton Cup for Trying	Louie Hindle
Duckworth Cup for Trying	Maisie Buller
J. Leaver Shield (Outstanding Effort)	Zainab Limbada
Swarbrick Trophy (Outstanding Sporting Achievements)	Thomas Hodgkinson
Natalie Stevens Eco Award	Joel Dent

Regular Activities After School

Monday	Ukulele Group 3.30 – 4.15 p.m. – from 12 th Sept then ongoing Netball Practice – Y6/Y5 girls – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – from 12 th Sept then ongoing
Tuesday	Gym Club – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – from 6 th Sept then ongoing
Wednesday	Orchestra Practice 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – from 28 th Sept then ongoing
Thursday	Choir Practice for Juniors – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – from 22 nd Sept then ongoing Y6 Maths Club – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – from 15 th Sept
Friday	Absolute Sports (Various) – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – from 23 rd Sept

Dates for Diaries/Activities in School

Wed 14 th Sept	Gymnastics Lessons – Reception to Year 4 – ongoing Y6 Secondary Transfer and Robinwood Meeting – 5.00 p.m.
Thurs 15 th	Pleckgate High School Open Day 5 – 8 p.m. Darwen Aldridge Community Academy Open Day 5.30 – 8.30 p.m.
Fri 16 th	Rugby Training – Y5 and Y6 – ongoing
Tues 20 th	Darwen Vale High School Open Evening 5 – 8 p.m.
Wed 21 st	Witton Park Academy Open Evening 5 – 8 p.m.
Thurs 22 nd	Friends' Non Uniform Day – flyer sent earlier Tauheedul Girls' High School Open Evening 4.30 – 7 p.m. Our Lady & St. John's Catholic College Open Day 9 – 10.30 a.m./4.30 – 6.30 p.m.
Sat 24 th	FUN DAY 12 – 3.00 p.m.
Tues 27 th	Tauheedul Boys' High School Open Day 10.30 – 1.30 p.m. Blackburn Central High School Open Evening 4.30 – 8 p.m.
Wed 28 th	St. Bede's R.C. High School Open Evening 5 – 8 p.m.
Thurs 29 th	Ribblesdale High School Open Evening 4.30 – 7.30 p.m. St. Wilfrid's C.E. Academy Open Evening 4.30 – 8 p.m. Tauheedul Boys' High School Open Day 10.30 – 1.30 p.m.
Sat 1 st Oct	QEGS Open Day 9.30 – 1.30 p.m.
Mon 3 rd	School Closed for Staff Training Day
Wed 12 th – Fri 14 th	Y6 at Robinwood
Wed 12 th	No Orchestra after school
Tues 25 th	Parents' Evening – more details to follow – No Gym Club after school
Thurs 27 th	Parents' Evening – more details to follow
Fri 28 th	School closes at 3.30 p.m. for half term
Mon 7 th Nov	School re-opens

Yours sincerely,
B. Haigh
Headteacher